

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 AF-08 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

/042 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JFTEFFT:MR

APPROVED BY IO:SWLEWIS; AF:TWSEELYE

IO/UNP:GBHELMAN

IO/UNESCO:RHEATER

IO:DRTOUSSAINT

S/S-S:CORODY

S:RWAHERNE

S/S-AWOOD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 236807 TOSEC 270678

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNESCO, AO

SUBJECT:ACTION MEMORANDUM: ANGOLAN MEMBERSHIP IN UNESCO

(S/S NO. 7620018)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM IO - LEWIS AND AF - SEELYE, ACTING

1. PROBLEM:

ANGOLA HAS APPLIED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN UNESCO. ITS APPLICATION WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD ON SEPTEMBER 28 FOR CONCURRENCE, BEFORE BEING SENT ON TO THE UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE WHICH BEGINS IN NAIROBI ON OCTOBER 26. WE NEED YOUR GUIDANCE BY SEPTEMBER 26 ON HOW TO VOTE.

2. BACKGROUND:

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IN ORDER TO BECOME A MEMBER OF UNESCO, ANGOLA MUST FIRST RECEIVE THE SUPPORT OF A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS AND THEN A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE. OUR DELEGATION TO UNESCO BELIEVES THAT ANGOLA'S CANDIDACY WILL BE APPROVED IN BOTH BODIES REGARDLESS OF OUR POSITION.

YOU AGREED EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT WE SHOULD ABSTAIN ON ANGOLAN ADMISSION TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO), THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION (ILO), AND MOST RECENTLY THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION. IN ADDITION, ANGOLA HAS PARTICIPATED IN UNCTAD IV AND THE RECENT LOS CONFERENCE.

WE DO NOT YET HAVE ANY OFFICIAL WORD ON WHEN ANGOLA PLANS TO REAPPLY FOR UN MEMBERSHIP. OUR WORKING ASSUMPTION IS THAT ANGOLA WILL DO SO IN MID-NOVEMBER.

3. OPTIONS:

A. ABSTAIN ON THE VOTE IN BOTH THE UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD AND GENERAL CONFERENCE.

PROS:

-- WE WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH OUR ABSTENTION POLICY IN THE WHO AND ILO;

-- DOES NOT UNNECESSARILY OFFEND AFRICAN STATES WHO SUPPORT ANGOLA, AND ON WHOSE VOTES WE WILL DEPEND FOR RECTIFICATION OF ANTI-ISRAELI RESOLUTIONS OF 1974 UNESCO CONFERENCE;

-- WILL NOT PREJUDICE OUR POSITION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL WHEN ANGOLA REAPPLIES FOR MEMBERSHIP.

CONS:

-- WE WILL PROBABLY BE TOTALLY ISOLATED AND COULD BE CRITICIZED BY THE AFRICANS.

B. OPPOSE THE ANGOLAN APPLICATION:

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PROS:

-- WOULD UNDERSCORE IN STRONG TERMS OUR OPPOSITION TO THE CONTINUING CUBAN TROOP PRESENCE.

CONS:

-- WOULD MARK A SHIFT AWAY FROM THE POLICY WE HAVE FOLLOWED IN OTHER SPECIALIZED AGENCIES;

-- WOULD NOT PREVENT ANGOLA'S ENTRY;

-- WOULD ANTAGONIZE AFRICAN AND THIRD WORLD STATES;

-- WOULD COMPLETELY ISOLATE US.

C. SUPPORT THE ANGOLAN APPLICATION (EITHER BY VOTE OR BY JOINING A CONSENSUS).

PROS:

-- WOULD SIGNAL TO ANGOLA A SHIFT IN OUR POSITION AND LEAD TO THE EXPECTATION THAT WE WOULD NOT VETO A RENEWED ANGOLAN APPLICATION TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL;

-- WOULD LIKELY BE HAILED BY AFRICANS AS A POSITIVE CHANGE IN OUR POLICY.

CONS:

-- WOULD BE CONSTRUED AS A SOFTENING IN OUR POSITION ON ANGOLA AND THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF CUBAN TROOPS;

-- COULD PREJUDICE OUR POSITION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL IF WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF A RENEWED ANGOLAN UN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION.

4. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU AUTHORIZE US TO INSTRUCT OUR UNESCO DELEGATION TO ABSTAIN ON THE ANGOLAN APPLICATION AT THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 28 AND (PROVIDED OUR POSITION ON ANGOLA HAS NOT CHANGED) ALSO AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 26.

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APPROVE : DISAPPROVE :

ALTERNATIVELY, THAT WE VOTE AGAINST THE ANGOLAN APPLICATION.

APPROVE : DISAPPROVE :

ALTERNATIVELY, THAT WE SUPPORT THE ANGOLAN APPLICATION.

APPROVE : DISAPPROVE :

5. DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JFTEFFT; CLEARED BY S:RWAHERHE S/S AUTHORIZED: IO-SWLEWIS;AF-TWSEELYE.

ROBINSON

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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